

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5           1.       A method for providing patient care to assist in improving health of said patient, comprising the steps of:

              developing a medical template, wherein said medical template comprises at least one medical protocol that is focused toward addressing a specific attribute of a medical ailment; and

              customizing said medical template to develop said patient care plan, wherein said patient care plan is focused on addressing said medical ailment to improve the health of said patient.

10           2       The method of claim 1, wherein said step of customizing said medical template, further comprises the steps of:

              gathering medical information regarding said patient; and

15           conforming said medical template in accordance with said medical information regarding said patient.

20           3.       The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of periodically performing customization of said patient care plan as a result of receiving updated medical information regarding said patient.

              4.       The method of claim 1, wherein said medical template is a standard of care used to address said medical ailment.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said patient care plan further comprises, a series of medical activities to be performed to assist in treating said ailment, and a number of medical visits to be taken by said patient, with a medical professional.

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6. The method of claim 5, wherein said medical visits are performed by said patient communicating with said medical professional via a communication channel such that said patient is located distant from said medical professional during said medical visit.

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7. The method of claim 6, wherein said communication means is the Internet.

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8. The method of claim 1, wherein said patient care plan comprises a series of interventions, wherein said interventions comprise activities that a medical professional will perform to assist said patient in achieving a predetermined medical goal.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein each of said interventions is scored in accordance with a predefined scale such that patient progress toward said predetermined medical goal may be monitored and adjusted by further customizing said patient care plan.

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10. A system for providing a patient care plan to assist in improving health of a patient, comprising:

a first computer comprising;

a transceiver;

software stored within said first computer defining functions to be performed; and  
a processor configured by said software to perform the steps of,

developing a medical template, wherein said medical template comprises  
at least one medical protocol that is focused toward addressing a specific attribute of a medical  
5 ailment, and

customizing said medical template to develop said patient care plan,  
wherein said patient care plan is focused on addressing said medical ailment to improve the  
health of said patient.

10 11. The system of claim 1, wherein said processor also performs the step of  
periodically performing customization of said patient care plan as a result of receiving updated  
medical information regarding said patient.

12. The system of claim 1, wherein said medical template is a standard of care used to  
15 address said medical ailment.

13. The system of claim 1, wherein said patient care plan comprises a series of  
medical activities to be performed for assisting in treating said ailment, and a number of medical  
visits with a medical professional.

20 14. The system of claim 13, wherein said medical visits are performed by said patient  
communicating with said medical professional via a communication channel such that said  
patient is located distant from said medical professional during said medical visit.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein said communication means is the Internet.

16. The system of claim 1, wherein said patient care plan comprises a series of  
5 interventions, wherein said interventions comprise activities that a medical professional will perform to assist said patient in achieving a predetermined medical goal.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein each of said interventions is scored in  
accordance with a predefined scale such that patient progress toward said predetermined medical  
10 goal may be monitored and adjusted by further customizing said patient care plan.

18. A system for providing patient care to assist in improving health of said patient,  
comprising:

means for developing a medical template, wherein said medical template comprises at  
15 least one medical protocol that is focused toward addressing a specific attribute of a medical  
ailment; and

means for customizing said medical template to develop said patient care plan, wherein  
said patient care plan is focused on addressing said medical ailment to improve the health of said  
patient.

19 The system of claim 18, further comprising means for gathering medical  
information regarding said patient, and means for conforming said medical template in  
accordance with said medical information regarding said patient.

20. The system of claim 18, further comprising means for periodically performing customization of said patient care plan as a result of receiving updated medical information regarding said patient.

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21. The system of claim 18, wherein said medical template is a standard of care used to address said medical ailment.

22. The system of claim 18, wherein said patient care plan further comprises, a series of medical activities to be performed to assist in treating said ailment, and a number of medical visits to be taken by said patient, with a medical professional.

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23. The system of claim 22, wherein said medical visits are performed by said patient communicating with said medical professional via a communication channel such that said patient is located distant from said medical professional during said medical visit.

24. The system of claim 23, wherein said communication means is the Internet.

25. The system of claim 18, wherein said patient care plan comprises a series of interventions, wherein said interventions comprise activities that a medical professional will perform to assist said patient in achieving a predetermined medical goal.

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26. The system of claim 25, wherein each of said interventions is scored in accordance with a predefined scale such that patient progress toward said predetermined medical goal may be monitored and adjusted by further customizing said patient care plan.